



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 12

Subject: BTEC L2 Law and Legal Work

Overview

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The BTEC Level 2 in Law and Legal Work offers a practical and accessible introduction to the legal system in England and Wales. It is ideal for students interested in how law operates in everyday life, particularly in criminal justice, policing, and the courts. The course builds knowledge of how laws are created and enforced, and what happens when individuals are suspected of breaking the law.

This qualification helps students develop key skills such as legal research, case analysis, and communication, while also preparing them for further study or entry-level roles in the legal or public services sectors.

Units Covered:

Unit 1: The English Legal System

This unit explores the foundations of law in England and Wales. Students learn how laws are made, interpreted, and applied, as well as the roles and responsibilities of key legal professionals and the court system.

Topics Include:

- The difference between criminal and civil law
- The structure of the court system
- Roles of legal professionals (judges, solicitors, barristers, magistrates)

Unit 2: The Police and Their Powers

In this unit, students investigate the powers of the police and how they are used during criminal investigations. They consider the balance between effective law enforcement and the rights of individuals.

Topics Include:

- Police roles and responsibilities
- Stop and search powers
- Arrest and detention procedures

- Rights of suspects in custody
- Police accountability and complaints

Unit 4: Criminal Law, Sentencing and Court Procedures

This unit focuses on the criminal justice process, from offence to sentencing. Students explore different types of criminal offences and gain insight into how courts deal with those accused of breaking the law.

Topics Include:

- Key criminal offences (e.g. theft, assault, criminal damage)
- Elements of a crime (actus reus and mens rea)
- Court procedures and roles in criminal trials
- Types of sentencing: custodial and non-custodial
- Aims of sentencing (e.g. deterrence, rehabilitation, retribution)

Assessment Methods:

All units are assessed through internally marked coursework assignments. Assessment tasks may include:

Written reports

Case study analysis

Role plays and mock trials

Presentations and research projects

There are no external exams, making this course suitable for learners who prefer practical, portfolio-based assessment.

Grading Structure:

Each unit is graded as:

Pass

Students must receive a Pass in all three units in order to achieve a Pass overall.

Skills Developed:

Understanding of legal rights and responsibilities

Research and legal reasoning

Communication and case presentation

Awareness of policing and justice procedures

Career planning for legal and public services roles

This course is an excellent stepping stone for students considering progression to BTEC Level 3 Law, A-Level Law, or public service qualifications, as well as careers in policing, legal support, or the wider justice system.